United States Judo Federation
National Promotional Committee
Draft AGENDA for 11-13-26 meeting
Sunset Station Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

Attendees:
Remote attendees:
Not in attendance :

1. Call to Order
2. Moment of Silence
3. Approval of Agenda for today
4. Approval of minutes from last meeting
5. Need for need secretary nomination and vote.
6. Review of Candidates for promotion
    a. Julia Tsutsui – San Joaquin – Sandan to Yodan
    b. James Miller – Rokushu- Godan to Rokudan
    c. Chris Kaichi- Southern Pacific – Yodan to Godan
    d. Neil Okimato – Hawaii – Godan to Rokudan
7. Old Business
    a. Continued reminder – Incomplete information on form 20 or missing deadline, will be rejected. Must be submitted complete and by established deadline.
    b. Update - USJF PC members will be assigned as advisor to YDKs that do not have representation on the USJF PC, and to other YDKs who request so, to advise concerning promotion application requirements and procedures. Current Volunteers are: R.Nakatsu - Hawaii state; L Tsutsui – Chuka; T Sheehan- Hudson; D Matsumoto – Ganbaru; A Catanese – Rokushu; D. Terada - PAC southwest
        Open for mentorship: Arizona, Makoto, Shinnanbu, Florida state
    c. Update – form 20 acceptance and posting –we approved changes and sent to BOE
    d. Update – Form 20 training and guidance
    e. Update – Any further concerns that Form 20 is the sole basis on promotional decisions.
    f. Update -Any further discussion on Non-competitor promotions
    g. Update – Any further discussion on open v. closed PC meetings
    h. Update – any further discussion on Matsumoto - time in grade, members, promotion.

8. New Business -
    a. IJF rank registration
    b. Changes at National Office
    c. Proposal to offer the revised form 20 to be fillable online, saved and edited.
    d. Proposal to have PC process form 20 with National Office verification. (Tamai)
    e. Proposal for Form 20 review subcommittee. (Tamai)
    f. Proposal to set new hard deadline for Form 20 (Tamai)
    g. Matsumoto - - discussion on how to objectively gauge contributions to judo.

Motion to adjourn

IJF Dan Rank Validation Requirement

Dear United States Judo Federation and USA Judo Members,

The International Judo Federation (IJF) has issued new worldwide Dan rank requirements designed to establish a consistent ranking system across all member nations. One of the most significant changes is that **all athletes, coaches, and referees who are registered in JudoBase, or who intend to compete or participate in any IJF event, must have their rank validated by the IJF no later than December 31, 2026.**

Please note that the **attached IJF document** references a September 2026 deadline. However, USA Judo has received official notification from the IJF that this deadline has been extended to **December 31, 2026**. Failure to obtain IJF rank validation by this date will make you **ineligible to participate in IJF events.**

Please also be aware that:

- IJF rank validation is **separate from USA Judo rank recognition or validation.**
- The IJF charges a **separate validation fee**, which is paid in addition to any USA Judo fees.
- The application must be completed by the athlete, coach, or referee and submitted to USA Judo.
- After USA Judo reviews the application and verifies the appropriate fees have been received, it will be forwarded to the Panamerican Judo Confederation (PJC).
- The PJC will review and approve the application before forwarding it to the IJF for final validation.

What This Means for You

If you are an athlete, coach, or referee and plan to participate in any IJF event after December 31, 2026, you must have your Dan rank validated by the IJF before that date.

USA Judo encourages everyone who requires IJF validation to begin the process as early as possible to avoid delays and ensure eligibility for future international events. If you currently hold a verified USA Judo dan rank, send a copy of your certificate, the completed application and fee to **connor.jenkins@usajudo.us**.

If you do not currently hold a verified USA Judo dan rank certificate, you must go through the USA Judo rank process to receive a USA Judo rank. Once the dan is verified, send the completed IJF application form and fee to **connor.jenkins@usajudo.us**.

Cost:
Shodan through Godan $125.00

Rokudan through Hachidan $200.00

Proposal 1: USJF PC To make the form 20 available on the USJF webpage as a fillable form that can be saved, signed and edited. Form has been developed and ready for testing. Rationale: Some YDKs are using old forms. It will help to make forms more complete before submitting.

Proposal 2: USJF PC to assume the duties of accepting the promotion paperwork, currently processed through the National Office. Rationale: To help relieve some of the burden of time on the national office. To have better control of paperwork process. To have

Proposal 3: USJF PC to form a sub-committee to accept form 20 and promotional paperwork. One person would be a lead with a number of individuals under them to help process and prepare paperwork and to verify completeness. Members of subcommittee do not need to be members of the USJF PC. The subcommittee lead will accept the paperwork. A person will be assigned to review the packet for completeness. An email will be sent to the individual stating what is missing or needs to be corrected. The subcommittee would still verify information with the National office like all certification status, membership status, etc. Or head of subcommittee will be provided read only access to database information to verify. Sub committee will keep a live summary sheet for the PC with a link to all paperwork submitted. Rationale: relieve some of the burden of the national office time, responsibilities sand duties.

Proposal 4: USJF Promotion Committee to set new standardized dates for cut off of fully completed promotion packet submittal per promotional season. Date will be set at March 15 for Spring Promotional Committee National Meeting and September 1 for Fall PC National Meeting. Rationale: National meeting dates float from year to year. Dates are usually set some time in early May and sometime in early November. Dates for next PC meeting are seldom set early and are floating in a two month window until announcement comes out. National office is too busy on many other things to focus on promotions. Setting a hard date allows all YDKs to know when all completed paperwork must be submitted by.